

## REPORT

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EAST CHINA TRANSPORT SERVICES SAVE SHANGHAI;  
RR FACILITIES CONTINUE TO BE IMPROVED

Shanghai, 19 March (Hsin-hua) -- During the 9 months since the liberation of Shanghai, the transportation facilities of the East China region, even while in the process of restoration, have not only met the transportation demands of the military, but, according to incomplete data, have also saved Shanghai through the transport by public and private, land and water conveyances of over 5 million tons of freight and over 17 million passengers.

At the time of liberation, 59 railroad bridges in the Shanghai area had been destroyed or damaged. By sinking, damaging, or removal, four-fifths of the government-owned, and nine-tenths of the privately owned shipping had been lost. However, in spite of blockades, air raids, and all kinds of difficulties the restoration and operation of transportation facilities have progressed continuously.

The Transportation Division of the East China Finance and Economics Commission, which was set up in September 1949, was reorganized 27 February 1950 as the Communications Department of the East China Military and Political Council. Under this department, all phases of transportation have been resumed. More than 1,700 kilometers of the five railroads in the Shanghai district are in operation; likewise, 1,752 kilometers of inland waterway transport. Over 70 ships, large and small, public and privately owned, which had been sunk by the enemy, have been salvaged. In September 1949, the China Merchants Steamship Company organized the East China Inland Waterway Transportation Company which now has in operation ships with an aggregate tonnage of 80,000 tons.

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SHANGHAI WEST STATION TO HANDLE FULL CARLOADS -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Jih-pao,  
21 Mar 50

Heretofore, Shanghai's West Station, on the Shanghai-Hangchow Railroad has been accepting, for outward-bound transportation only, freight in less than carload lots. Now the station is handling full carload lots of outgoing shipments but not full carload lots of incoming shipments.

TRAIN SETS NEW ROUND-TRIP RECORD -- Hankow Ch'ang-chiang Jih-pao, 14 Apr 50

The Heng-yang Bureau of the Canton-Hankow Railroad has announced that special train No 2406, in making a trial run, required only 20 minutes for servicing the locomotive at the roundhouse in Chu-chou and only 6 minutes to change locomotives and inspect the train at Ch'ang-sha on the return trip. The bureau indicates that this is a new record in time-saving and recommends that other sections of the railroad emulate it.

LAUNCH ACCIDENT-PREVENTION MOVEMENT -- Tientsin Jih-pao, 21 Mar 50

Tientsin -- The Railroad Workshops at Fang-t'ai, early in February 1950, launched a "100 days with no accident" movement, which has spread to other sections and railroads. Its principal features are a system of frequent and thorough inspection of track and rolling stock, and commitment on the part of each member of the work gangs to assume responsibility for reporting or remedying anything that is out of order.

ADAPTS BICYCLES FOR RR USE -- Peiping Kung-jen Jih-pao, 21 Mar 50

Hangchow -- Local workmen of the Shanghai Railroad Bureau have devised a highly convenient and serviceable substitute for the ordinary four-man-operated handcar used by railroad employees in making routine or emergency inspections and track repairs. Hearing that in the USSR bicycles were used for this purpose, these workmen designed and constructed a successful model after 3 months' experimentation. The essential features are the attachment of two relatively small accessory flanged metal wheels in front of and behind the regular bicycle wheels to keep the latter on the track, and of an arm bearing a third wheel which runs on the other rail.

The advantages claimed for this bicycle adaptation are that the accessory parts are inexpensive, easily attached and detached, the vehicle can be easily placed on the track, operated, and removed from the track by one man. This makes feasible much more frequent and economical patrol of the track, and therefore will facilitate the prevention of railroad accidents.

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